

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended) A biological reagent comprising porcine CTLA-4 that inhibits T-cell mediated rejection of a xenotransplanted porcine organ by blocking the delivery of co-stimulatory signal 2 in order to prevent the activation of xenoreactive T-cells in a recipient by blocking the ~~through modulation of B7/CD28~~ interactions between B7 and CD28.

Claims 2-4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (previously presented) An isolated protein comprising porcine CTLA-4.

Claim 6 (previously presented) The protein of claim 5 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 7 (withdrawn) A nucleic acid sequence which encodes the protein according to claim 6.

Claims 8-30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (withdrawn) A vector encoding the protein of claim 6.

Claim 32 (withdrawn) A cell transformed with the vector of claim 31.

Claim 33 (withdrawn) A cell that recombinantly expressed a porcine CTLA-4 protein.

Claim 34 (withdrawn) The cell of claim 33, wherein the protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID: 1.

Claim 35 (previously presented) The protein of claim 5 fused to an immunoglobulin.

Claim 36 (previously presented) The protein of claim 35, wherein the immunoglobulin is a human immunoglobulin.

Claim 37 (previously presented) The protein of claim 36, wherein the human immunoglobulin is immunoglobulin gamma (IgG).

Claim 38 (previously presented) The protein of claim 37, wherein the immunoglobulin gamma comprises a constant region of the human C γ 1 subtype.

Claim 39 (previously presented) The protein of claim 35, wherein a linker connects the porcine CTLA-4 to the immunoglobulin.

Claim 40 (previously presented) The protein of claim 39, wherein the linker comprises the amino acid sequence GGSGGAA (Seq ID NO 28).

Claim 41 (previously presented) An isolated protein comprising the extracellular domain of porcine CTLA-4.

Claim 42 (previously presented) The isolated protein of claim 41, wherein the protein comprises amino acid sequence numbers 38-161 of Seq ID No 1.

Claim 43 (previously presented) The protein of claim 41 fused to an immunoglobulin.

Claim 44 (previously presented) The protein of claim 43, wherein the immunoglobulin is a human immunoglobulin.

Claim 45 (previously presented) The protein of claim 44, wherein the human immunoglobulin is immunoglobulin gamma (IgG).

Claim 46 (previously presented) The protein of claim 45, wherein the immunoglobulin gamma comprises a constant region of the human C γ 1 subtype.

Claim 47 (previously presented) The protein of claim 43, wherein a linker connects the porcine CTLA-4 to the immunoglobulin.

Claim 48 (previously presented) The protein of claim 47, wherein the linker comprises the amino acid sequence GGSGGAA (Seq ID NO 28).

Claim 49 (previously presented) The protein of claim 48, wherein the protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

Claim 50 (previously presented) The protein of any of claims 5, 35, 41 or 43 in soluble form.

Claim 51 (withdrawn) A method for inhibiting T-cell mediated rejection of a xenotransplanted organ, comprising administering the protein of claim 5 to a recipient.

Claim 52 (withdrawn) A method for inhibiting T-cell mediated rejection of a xenotransplanted organ, comprising administering the protein of claim 50 to a recipient.